



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

26 JANUARY 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Los Angeles – Eight Children in Los Angeles County Contract COVID-19 Related MIS-C

(U) Eight more children in Los Angeles County have contracted an inflammatory condition connected to COVID-19, bringing the total number of cases to 62. Multisystem inflammatory syndrome (MIS-C) is serious but relatively rare. In LA County, it has disproportionately affected Latino children. No further details about the eight new cases were available. Children are generally less vulnerable to the coronavirus than adults and usually remain asymptomatic. The inflammatory reaction that results in MIS-C usually develops two to four weeks after exposure to the virus.

SOURCE: 25 January 2021, [Los Angeles Times](#)

(U) Sacramento – Extent of Fraudulent Unemployment Claims May Grow Significantly

(U) Sophisticated hackers, identity thieves, and overseas criminal rings stole more than \$11 billion in unemployment benefits from California last year, but the extent of the fraud might grow far larger: billions more in payments are under investigation. California Labor Secretary Julie Su told reporters in a conference call Monday that of the \$114 billion the state has paid in unemployment claims, about 10%—or \$11.4 billion—have been confirmed as fraudulent. Nearly \$20 billion more—another 17%—is considered suspicious, and a large part of that could be found to be fraud, she said. Nearly all of the fraudulent claims were made through the federally supported Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program. The program was approved by Congress to provide unemployment benefits to people during the COVID-19 pandemic who are usually ineligible to receive them, such as independent contractors. But, officials say, its broad eligibility requirements made it an easy target of criminals, including from Nigeria and Russia.

SOURCE: 25 January 2021, [San Diego Union-Tribune](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Texas – US Border Patrol Interdicts Several Human Smuggling Attempts

(U) Laredo – In a busy 72-hour period, Laredo Sector Border Patrol interdicts several human smuggling attempts at its checkpoints and apprehends 172 illegal aliens north of Laredo. From 23-25 January, human smugglers attempted to use tractor trailers to smuggle illegal aliens from the countries of Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras. In all three events, a total of 172 individuals and drivers, all US citizens, were placed under arrest pending further investigation. US Border Patrol seized the tractors and trailers.

SOURCE: 25 January 2021, [CBP.gov](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Illinois – Alleged Leaders of Gangster Disciples Indicted for Federal Racketeering Charges

(U) Springfield – Seven alleged members of the violent Gangster Disciples gang, including top national and state leaders, are in custody after multiple arrests this morning for their alleged participation in a years-long interstate racketeering conspiracy involving multiple murders, drug trafficking, and other

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crimes. According to court documents, the Gangster Disciples are a violent gang with a decades-long history of lawlessness and a presence throughout the US, including in state and federal prisons. The gang employs a structured hierarchy, with leadership positions such as national “Board Members” and state “Governors.” Each of the defendants is alleged to be a member or leader of the Gangster Disciples, and to have conspired to conduct the gang’s affairs through a pattern of racketeering.

SOURCE: 25 January 2021, [Justice.gov](#)

(U) Indiana – Youth Arrested in Shooting Deaths of Six People

(U) Indianapolis – Police arrested a juvenile on Monday in the shooting deaths of a pregnant woman, her unborn child, and four others found at a home in Indianapolis, while authorities said the mass killing “does not appear to be random.” Authorities have not released information about a potential motive or about the suspect’s relationship with the victims. The suspect was not identified, and the Marion County Prosecutors Office was still determining charges, police said.

SOURCE: 25 January 2021, [Reuters](#)

(U) Kansas – US Appeals Court Upholds Prison Sentences for Men who Plotted to Bomb Somalis

(U) Garden City – A US appeals court upheld the convictions and prison sentences of three white men who plotted to bomb a Kansas apartment complex that was home to Somali immigrants and a mosque, rejecting in a ruling on Monday that the FBI had entrapped them. Curtis Allen, Gavin Wright, and Patrick Eugene Stein were found guilty by a jury in the Kansas US district court in 2018 of conspiring to use a weapon of mass destruction and violating the civil rights of Muslims living in the Garden City housing complex.

SOURCE: 25 January 2021, [Reuters](#)

(U) Texas – Texas Man Pleads Guilty to Conspiracy of Providing Material Support to ISIS

(U) San Antonio – In San Antonio, 22-year-old Cost resident Jaylyn Christopher Molina, aka Abdur Rahim, admitted to conspiring to provide material support to the designated foreign terrorist organization the Islamic State in Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS). Molina pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to provide material support to ISIS and one count of receiving child pornography. By pleading guilty, Molina admitted that since May 2019, he conspired with 34-year-old South Carolina resident Kristopher Sean Matthews, aka Ali Jibreel, and others to provide services to ISIS by administering an encrypted, members-only chat group for persons who supported ISIS ideology, disseminating pro-ISIS propaganda, recruiting individuals to join ISIS, and by disseminating bomb-making instructions.

SOURCE: 25 January 2021, [Justice.gov](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Pakistan – US Travel Advisory Warns Americans Against Travelling to India-Pakistan Border

(U) Lahore – Updating its travel advisory for three South Asian countries, the US has urged its citizens to reconsider their travel to Pakistan and Bangladesh and not to visit Afghanistan. The US State Department issued separate travel advisories for the three countries on Monday. The advisory also warned Americans against travelling to “the immediate vicinity of the Line of Control due to terrorism and the potential for armed conflict.” Do not travel to the India-Pakistan border, militant groups are known to operate in the area. India and Pakistan maintain a strong military presence on both sides of the border. Indian and Pakistani military forces periodically exchange gunfire and artillery fire across the Line of Control (LoC).

SOURCE: 26 January 2021, [The Hindu](#)

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(U) Palestine – Israeli Forces Kill Suspected Attacker

(U) Nablus – An Israeli military commander shot a Palestinian man who attempted to stab soldiers in the occupied West Bank on Tuesday, the military said. Israeli troops at a nearby military post “spotted an assailant who attempted to stab two Israeli Defense Force (IDF) soldiers” stationed at the road junction. “One of the soldiers blocked the assailant’s multiple stabbing attacks, and the commander of the troops who was at the scene fired towards the assailant and neutralized him,” the statement said. The Palestinian health ministry said the man had died, without identifying him.

SOURCE: 26 January 2021, [Reuters](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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